2006 FRANCIS H. RAYMOND AWARD

The California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection is seeking nominations for the **2006 Francis H. Raymond Award**. The annual award is given to the individual(s), organization, agency or company who has contributed the most to the management and increased awareness of California's forested resources over the past five years.

The award is named in honor of Francis H. Raymond, former State Forester and leading advocate of the passage of Assembly Bill 469 in 1972, which resulted in the Professional Foresters Licensing Law.

The recipient of the 2005 Award was Mr. John T. NIcoles of Oakland. Mr. Nicoles was recognized for his consistent involvement in educational efforts aimed toward greater public understanding of resource management. Upon retirement from the East Bay Regional Park District in 1992, Mr. Nicoles began a new career as a volunteer educator. Since 1993, he has served as a facilitator for the Talk About Trees Program and participated in every Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT) session. His successful "Bullwhacker's Jubilee", a historical logging and forestry exhibition that ran from 1984-1986 was a precursor to Forest Conservation Days. Forest Conservation Days is an annual event in which 3,500 inner city 5th grade students spend four hours at a regional park in Saratoga, California hiking and interacting with forestry displays. Nicoles has participated in this event since 1992, providing educational experiences to well over 30,000 students, teachers and parents. Recognizing the educational utility of a vintage 1882 Dolbeer Steam Donkey, Nicoles led the restoration of its boiler and began operating it at Forest Conservation Days in 1993. To date, the steam donkey demonstration remains the favorite amongst the students, teachers and general public.

Previous recipients of the Award include: William Beaty of Beaty and Associates, The State Fire Safe Council, the Collins Pine Company, Ronald Adams and Sherman Finch of the Forestry Center at Cal Expo, The Quincy Library Group, Frank Barron of Crane Mills, Tad Mason of Pacific Wood Fuels, the late Gil Murray of the California Forestry Association, Kay Antunez of the Project Learning Tree program, Gary Nakamura of UC Cooperative Extension, Bud McCrary of Big Creek Lumber Company, Andy Lipkis of TreePeople, Norm Pillsbury of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, John Zivnuska of UC Berkeley, Ray Rice of the US Forest Service, Peter Passof of UC Cooperative Extension, Roseburg Resources Company, the Redwood Region Conservation Council, Jim Jenkinson of the US Forest Service, and Nancy Inmon of the Trees Are For People program.

Nominations are due to the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection by **March 3, 2006**, with the selection being made by the nomination review committee in April, and the Award to be presented at a ceremony in the summer of 2006.

Additional information may be obtained from the **California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, P.O. Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460.** Contributions to endow the Francis H. Raymond Award are greatly appreciated. The stipend that accompanies this Award depends on the interest earned from donations made to the Francis H. Raymond Fund.